



The Community Advocate

Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations

P.O. Box 9252 Virginia Beach, VA 23450-9252

<http://vbcco.org>

November 2008 Volume 49 - Number 10

November's Topic: Plan for the future ~ Come out and vote!

Stake Holder's Meeting, 2009
Executive Committee Election
and Canned Food Drive.

November 12, 7pm to 8:30pm
Virginia Beach Central Library
4100 Virginia Beach Blvd

CCO will hold a 50/50 raffle to raise funds
for operating expenses, so bring a few
dollars with you for a chance to help CCO
and to win half of the night's wager.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT:
*Foodbank of Southeastern
Virginia*

CCO's Executive Committee:
December 3, 2008, 7 pm to 9 pm
Green Run Community Center
1248 Green Garden Circle

2009 Membership Dues Reminder:

Don't forget to remind the
incoming Treasurer about
VBCCO Dues. Log on to our
website: www.vbcco.org for
more information.

Upcoming Program Topics:

The schedule below is tentative and
is subject to change.

- Dec 10 Meet the new
School board
- Jan 14 Strategic Planning for
upcoming year
- Feb 11 Leadership Expo

All VBCCO meetings will begin at 7pm at
Virginia Beach Central Library

Nominations for 2009 Executive Committee

The Nominating Committee has submitted the slate of candidates
listed below.

Position	Nominee	Term
President	Sam Reid	One-Year Term, Exp: 12/31/09
1 st Vice President	Jermaine Hannah	One-Year Term, Exp: 12/31/09
2 nd Vice President	Jim Glynn	One-Year Term, Exp: 12/31/09
Treasurer	Joe Yurso	One-Year Term, Exp: 12/31/09
Recording Secretary	Henry Ryto	One-Year Term, Exp: 12/31/09
Corresponding Secretary	Julie Strader	One-Year Term, Exp: 12/31/09
Director	Dr. Maggie Sizer	Two-Year Term, Exp: 12/31/10
Director	Jennifer Acey	Two-Year Term, Exp: 12/31/10
Director	Melinda Lunchun	Two-Year Term, Exp: 12/31/10
Director	John McMullen	One-Year Term, Exp: 12/31/09
Continuing in their current positions will be:		
Director	Chris Wiemken	Two-Year Term, Exp: 12/31/09
Director	Jay Kerr	Two-Year Term, Exp: 12/31/09
Past President	Chandler Scarborough	

Please come out and vote for the 2009 Executive Committee.
Voting will be held at the November 12th General Meeting. **YOU**
can make a difference in the VBCCO. Let your voice count.

**"A citizen of America will cross the ocean to
fight for democracy, but won't cross the street to
vote in a national election."**

~ Bill Vaughan

VBCCO Committee Meetings



Community Advocacy Taskforce

Saturday, November 8; 10 a.m.
Daily Grind Coffee
Town Center
Meets 2nd Saturday of every month

Banquet Committee

Saturday, November 8; 11 a.m.
Daily Grind Coffee
Town Center
Meets 2nd Saturday of every month

Programs Committee

Monday, November 24; 7 p.m.
Bayside Library
Meets 4th Monday of every month

Communications Committee

Monday, November 24; 8 p.m.
Bayside Library
Meets 4th Monday of every month

Foodbank "Quick Fact":

\$1 donation is the amount it takes to distribute up to \$8 worth of food.

VIRGINIA BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD CONFERENCE 2008

We asked. You spoke. We listened and took action. Using the compass offered by the feedback supplied by CCO membership through an online survey, we reached our destination straight on.

The level of citizen support offered by the CCO, City and other 501s through the first VB Neighborhood Conference is motivating. The Community Empowerment Taskforce eagerly seeks the next opportunity to reinforce the foundations of our neighborhoods through networking and knowledge sharing thereby strengthening our neighborhood leadership teams.

Analyzing the conference evaluations, we received not only high scores but also found one participant writing an exclamation of "WOW!" along with other positive remarks. Another participant wished the VBNC were a two-day conference, while still another wished she were able to attend every roundtable discussion. This is a very good sign.

Interactive auditorium presentations and round table discussions included:

- How to Cut through Red Tape to Get Things Done (Traffic Calming, Code Enforcement, and Storm water Drainage).
- Volunteer Recruitment and Retention
- Safe and Livable Neighborhoods
- Effective Communication
- Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Officer Roundtable

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Don't forget:

VBCCO will be sponsoring a food drive to support the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia at the next General Meeting on November 12th. Please bring a canned food item or make a monetary donation to help the less fortunate. Checks can be made out to: Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia, referencing VBCCO in the memo.

10 Most Wanted Items:

Peanut Butter	Chunky Soups
Canned Meat	Canned Tuna
Canned Vegetables	Juice
Cereal	Macaroni & Cheese
Pasta	Pasta Sauce

What Share Your Light Night can do to change your home life:

By: *Brenda Armitage, Chairperson of the Community Empowerment Taskforce*

Do you miss the days of yesteryear where people protected all neighborhood children and reported to the parents when they were seriously misbehaving? Do you remember when it was commonplace to know the first and last names of all the family members living four doors down? Do you feel comfortable going three doors down to borrow an egg or some milk to complete the recipe you are working on? If you are a community leader and borrowing an egg from someone a few doors down from you might make you feel uncomfortable, it is because you have not created that warm comfortable atmosphere necessary for a tight-knit community. Therefore, shame on you!

Yep, I said it... SHAME ON YOU!

Understandably, with hectic work schedules and extra-curricular activities, our society has become isolationist once reaching the home. We are too busy, many say. The truth of the matter is that many neighbors are uncomfortable with taking the steps to reach the home three doors down to say Hello, but yearn for a better home life and close-knit community. Share Your Light Night offers the perfect excuse to come together; a perfect mechanism to help citizens break out of the isolationist mindset. However, creating true change within our communities depends upon you, our community leaders. Seed the event now either on your own by getting your neighbors together for the event, or on a broader scale as an organization.

As community leaders, you should be creating a warm atmosphere so neighbors are not only willing to converse with one another for five minutes on a regular basis, but are eager and seek each other out to do so. This task should be the first and foremost obligation of any community group. If this mindset is adopted, most of your work will already be done if an issue comes before your body. It is far better to address an issue as a united positive group rather than one that is empowered for the wrong reasons – based in negativity.

Therefore, I challenge everyone who reads this to place an article in your newsletter with the message of what Share Your Light Night offers your community. Organize a “seed” display through a few pods of close neighbors within your neighborhood and watch the event grow year after year. Light the entrance of your neighborhood. Do it on a grander scale and distribute luminary order forms to all your neighbors (Illuminate A Cause, LLC can manage any financial risk for you). Do something to bring neighbors together in the spirit of the holidays. Summer functions are great, but many people are vacationing when school is out. Two weeks before Christmas is ideal. Seed the luminary event in your neighborhood NOW!

Take some advice from Nike® – Just do it! You will realize the benefits when you hear about the new friendships that were forged or the funny stories that come out of comfort station conversations. Neighbors' home lives will be positively changed.

Share Your Light Night is scheduled for the second Saturday in December. This year it will be December 13 at 7 PM. For more information or ideas, see the event website at www.shareyourlightnight.blogspot.com.



Initiative One:

There is value in being part of the CCO. We offer education, networking, informative programs, and insightful speakers. Our organization works closely with the City by opening and maintaining the lines of communication to affect positive change when needed. We are of great value to our members, as well as the City. As a united group of professionals, we can stand steadily while advocating and offering creative solutions for universal concerns or issues. We have both the members and the expertise to motivate our citizens for the good of our community.

If you are an organization in good standing with the CCO, we request the placement of our logo to be proudly displayed on your communication tools (newsletters, websites, blogs or chat groups) as a show of unity and strength. This will further legitimize your organization just as when businesses display the Better Business Logo in their store, flyers, or website. Also, it will help us grow and be more easily recognized, thereby helping us all.

Please forward the CET's email or contact information to your newsletter editor and webmaster. We will email you a copy of our logo once your status of being in "good standing" is confirmed.

Initiative Two:

Please continue sending in contact information for any speakers who have come before your membership from which you believe other civic leagues could benefit from the knowledge and insight they offer. Remember, this initiative is ongoing. We have solicited names and contact information from the City who might be of interest. We are also looking for contact information for any topic of interest such as for a Master Gardener, community supportive type non-profits such as Clean Community Commission – Helping Hands, Citizens Corps, the United Way and any other organization you think would be of interest to neighbors. Again, email in your information at shareyourlightnight@yahoo.com.

We would like to extend a special "thank you" to the local establishments that made monetary and product donations to the VBCCO Neighborhood Conference.

Harris Teeter
Bagel n' more
Krispy Kreme

Wawa
BJ's Wholesale
Bagelworks



City Council Meetings:

Tuesday, November 4,
Tuesday, November 11,
Tuesday, November 25
 6 p.m. Council Chambers,
 Building 1

Wednesday, November 5th
School Board Public
Hearing

6 p.m.
 School Board
 Administration Bldg
 2512 George Mason Drive
 2009-2010 Operating Budget
 Please contact the Clerk of
 the Board 263-1016

Saturday, November 8th
Community Recycle
Day

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 VB Farmers Market
 Dam Neck & Princess Anne
 Roads

Sunday, November 9th
Pet-Palooza

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Princess Anne Middle School
 For more information,
 Call 385-4444

Mark Your Calendars!

2009 VBCCO Awards
Banquet
Saturday, March 14th
 Oceanfront Wyndham Hotel
 For event details or to
 purchase tickets, contact
 Dan Baxter -dbaxt001@att.net.
 For sponsorship information,
 contact Chandler Scarborough
 at 621-4919 or
chandler@greenrun.org.

How Can CCO Help Your
Neighborhood?

As we work to improve service to our members, we would like to hear from you. How can CCO help strengthen your civic organization?
 Contact CCO:
 Phone: (757) 353-4956
 Fax: (757) 238-5450
<http://vbcco.org>

We are excited to learn we have increased the confidence in our **new** community leaders and strengthened the more seasoned ones. What is most exciting is that our community leaders will be waiting and watching for the next event.

The phrase, "When we unite, we all win" comes to mind describing events such as the VBNC. It presents an example of what can happen when we (CCO, City, 501s) unite to accomplish a very important universal goal. The goal of the Community Empowerment Taskforce is to generate empowered citizens and stronger communities. From assessments, our city's citizens benefited greatly from the VBNC, as did the various City departments.

If you missed the Virginia Beach Neighborhood Conference, do not let pass another opportunity to network and knowledge share with other community leaders. Priceless information was free flowing. Keep an eye out for the next Community Empowerment Taskforce function. These classes offer a great opportunity to learn, share and are "can't miss events".

Any CCO member-in-good-standing may reprint any article from the CCO newsletter or website provided that no changes are made to the article and that CCO is cited as the original source. Non-members may request permission to reprint CCO articles.

Resort Area Strategic Action Plan Resolution

By Henry Ryto

A quality Resort Area Strategic Action Plan can be the catalyst for redeveloping the Resort Area without a (twice voter rejected) Redevelopment Authority. As such, it should be welcomed in concept.

Many residents have expressed concern about the amount of their tax dollars being spent on capital projects related to Tourism. The Strategic Action Plan should choose a minimum of such projects in a manner to spur the maximum amount of private sector redevelopment.

The Council of Civic Organizations endorses the Resort Area Strategic Action Plan with two caveats:

1. Editing for political purposes should be removed and resisted. Large-scale hotel redevelopment should be promoted in the northern portion of the Resort Area, while the proposed luxury hotel at Rudee Loop must be maintained.
2. All redevelopment should be within Virginia Beach's December, 2005 BRAC Ordinances. That includes limiting Resort Area redevelopment inside the 70 decibel line.

VBCCO Member Civic Organizations

Aeries on the Bay•Alanton•Aragona Village•Avalon Hills
 Avalon Terrace/Woods•Back Bay/Pungo•Baycliff•Baylake Pines
 Bellamy Plantation•Bellamy Woods•Bellwood Estates•Birdneck Lake
 Homes• Birdneck Point Blackwater•Brigadoon•Brighton on the
 Bay•Cambridge Courts•Cape Henry Shores•Cape Story By The
 Sea•Carolanne Farm•Cavalier Park/Bay Colony Charlestowne
 Woods•Chelsea-Green Hill Farms/Meadows•Chesapeake Beach-
 Chesopeian Colony•Croatan•Cypress Point• Fairfield •Glenwood
 Great Neck Estates•Great Neck Meadow•Green Run•Homestead
 Hunt Club Forest•Kempsville Greens•King's Grant•King's Point•Lake
 Edward Lake Shores•Lake Smith •Lakeview Park•Lakeville Estates
 Lamplight Manor•Larkspur•Laurel Cove•Level Green•Linkhorn
 Cove•Little Haven•Little Neck Cove•Manchester Village
 Newcastle-Princeton•North Virginia Beach•Ocean Park•Oceana
 Gardens•Park Place Pembroke Manor •Princess Anne Crossing
 Princess Anne Plaza•Ridglea•River Haven• Rudee
 Heights•Sandbridge Beach•Sea Breeze Farm Seatack
 South Shore Estates•Southall Quarter•Stratford Chase
 Thalia•Thoroughgood Colony Three Oaks•The Villages
 Wellington Woods•Witchduck•Wolfsnare Plantation•Woodstock

These Organizations have paid their 2008 membership fee. Don't see your neighborhood listed? Contact Gene Moore at moore252@infonline.net



VBCCO MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
4604 Williamsburg Court
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For all except "Temporarily Away"

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Membership

2008 Officers and Directors

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2 Dan Baxter
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